

Oct. 1, 1966

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ECT: Mine Water Pools  
Northern Anthracite Field

TO: Hon. H. B. Charnbury  
Secretary of Mines & Mineral Industries

FROM: Wm. A. Sanders  
Supervising Mine Inspector

Enclosed please find a report of a Review of the mine water pools of the Northern Anthracite Field in Wayne, Susquehanna, Lackawanna and Luzerne Counties.

Two copies of prints of Luzerne County are enclosed. Please send a copy to Inspectors Joyce, Devens and Kettle.

One print of Lackawanna County is enclosed. It is all I have. Please make a sepia for Deputy Smith. Please send a copy to Inspector Devens and return a copy to me.

The Luzerne County area is made on a scale of 1" = 3200'. The Lackawanna County print is made on a scale of 1" = 1600'. I suggest, while making prints, reduce the scale of the Lackawanna County print to 1" = 3200' to conform with Luzerne County. Savings in paper will pay the cost and it would be well to have the entire field on a single print.

CONC. CO. BASE  
0.5' +

c.c. Hon. Gordon E. Smith  
USG BASE W. R. Devens

LAB. H. BLANKELY Arthur A. Joyce

TOP OF BH + 794.55  
WATER + 778.9  
SURFACE TO WATER  
15.7

1972

CUTTING EDGE LITCH. FLOW LINE TOP OF CONCRETE 520.00

SOUTH W-B R.H. CUT AT + 527.50 FLOW IS OFF 517.00

PLAINVILLE OUTFLOW + 531.74

ASKAM DUNES OUTFLOW + 547.00

JERMYN CUT FLOW + 923.00 WATER + 921.00

+ 760 WATER

+ 711 WATER

A-19-79  
F. DESORRO

TOP OF SHAFT LACKA SHAFT

+ 786.06 OLY POOL

OF SEPT 14-77  
10.70 WATER 775.35

U.S.G. ELEV.

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Review of Mine Water Pools Northern Anthracite Field  
September 1966

Inspectors Devens, Joyce, Sanders

All but a small portion of the Northern Anthracite Field is filled with water to the elevation where water runs off by gravity, either to known outlets to the surface, overflows underground to the sands or seepage to underground pools downstream. The pools are formed by barrier pillars, barren areas, faults, tightly caved areas and natural elevations in the various coal seams.

The only coal areas above water are in beds wholly above the area pool or parts of beds which rise above the elevation of the pool or in the few areas where water is being pumped to make mining possible.

In Lackawanna, Wayne and Susquehanna Counties, there is no pumping for the purpose of keeping areas free of water and therefore all mines are filled to gravity overflow.

The most northerly pool is located in the most northerly end of the field in Forest City and Clinton Twp. Lackawanna, Wayne and Susquehanna Counties. The overflow to surface is located at 13 Drift, Clinton Colliery Hudson Coal Co., Clinton Twp., Pa., at elevation to Lackawanna River.

Elevation + 1403.0

Next pool downstream overflows to surface at No. 6 Tunnel Clinton Colliery, Clinton Twp., at elevation

+ 1384.0

Next pool downstream overflows to surface at Greys Slope Pennsylvania Coal Co., Clinton Twp., to Lackawanna River at

+ 1329.0

Next pool downstream overflows to surface to Wilson Creek at DeAngelis Drifts, Simpson, Pa., at elevation

+ 1228.0

Next pool downstream overflows to surface to Wilson Creek at 20 Slope, Hudson Coal Co. Coalbrook Colliery, Simpson, Pa., at

+ 1198.0

Carbondale area water overflows underground to Jermyn Pool at elevation

+ 960.0

Cart Racketbrook, East Carbondale, Isolated overflows to surface near Hyland Ave., on Old Honesdale Branch D.& H.R.R.

+ 1240.0

Jermyn pool overflows to surface at Jermyn Water Tunnel to Lackawanna River, Jermyn, Pa., at elevation

+ 923.0

No. 6 Drift Gravity Colliery Hudson Coal, Archbald, Pa., overflows to surface to Lackawanna River (isolated) at

+ 923.0

Mt. Vernon Water Tunnel, Winton, Pa. (isolated) overflows to surface to Lackawanna River at elevation

+ 900.0

Winton Water Tunnel, Winton, Pa., overflows to surface to Lackawanna River at elevation

AR100002

Ontario pool Penn Anthracite Collieries Co., overflows to surface or sands at Lackawanna Shaft, Peckville, Pa., to Lackawanna River at elevation

+ 760.0

STERRICH CR.

Olyphant pool, Throop, Olyphant, Dickson City overflows underground at Storrs Dickson City, and Price Penocost Throop and fluctuates between elevations + 695.0 and + 716.0

Marvine Storrs Pool elevations are about 10' higher than elevations taken at Diamond, Dodge, Holden, Taylor, but all one pool with a free flow fluctuating between elevations + 584.0 and + 598.0  
The overflow of this pool is at the Duryea borehole to Lackawanna River + 575.0  
Also by way of Central, No. 9, and Phoenix to Duryea Bubble at + 549.0  
Elevation of pool taken at various points show Central + 575.0  
Duryea Bubble to Susquehanna River Phoenix + 555.0  
Restricted flow thru Old Forge to Central and Central to No. 9, Phoenix and Seneca.

This pool extends to the Ewen Barrier on the South and the Susquehanna River on the West. These openings are the last downstream which discharge water from main pools to surface by gravity until you get downstream to the western end of the field. All other areas which are full discharge to the sands or on barriers downstream. The Pittston water tunnel catches water above this pool and discharges to surface to the Susquehanna River at + 528.0

All areas above Delaware Shaft, Hudson Coal Co., in Plains Twp., Pa., are filled to overflow seeping to the sands of the Susquehanna River or to seepage on barriers downstream. There is no pumping to drain mines north of Delaware and no men are working below gravity drainage. No men are working north or west of Huber Colliery, Blue Coal Corp., Ashley, Pa., below the elevation of gravity drainage.

All mines on the north or west side of the Susquehanna River are filled to gravity overflow and naturally no men are working below this elevation. Water seeps to the sands of the Susquehanna River or on barriers downstream. Elevations vary between + 500.0 to + 530.0 which are close to or above the elevation of the river bed.

Blue Coal Corp., is pumping at Delaware to aid South Wilkes-Barre pumping station due to less trouble with water purification at Delaware. Barrier is open to Hollenback at elevation + 274.0 and to Stanton, South Wilkes-Barre. Must be caved. Water does overflow at + 360.0 as an increase is noted at So. Wilkes-Barre when water reaches this elevation. Kept at + 356.0 or below with 4 6000 GPM 2 5000 GPM deep well pumps. No men working.

South Wilkes-Barre has no men working and is pumping for Huber Colliery, Blue Coal Corp. Water must be kept below + 280.0 or remove men at Huber and Sugar Notch, because of possible failure and overflow via Stanton and Franklin. Franklin is isolated below + 300.0 except for a controlled borehole to Huber at elevation + 29.0 This water must be kept below + 138.0 or remove men at Huber. Borehole is thru a dam built against the barrier pillar which is narrow. Notify Inspector Devens every 2 weeks of elevation of water at Huber, Franklin and So. Wilkes-Barre.

Huber Colliery, Blue Coal Corp., is pumping and the first area where men are working below gravity overflow points, Forest City to Ashley Main pumps to surface are located in the Baltimore Vein at elevation 0.00 Sea Level. Other pumps below the Baltimore Vein are pumping up to this level. Lowest elevation at which men are working is - 635.0 - 635.0

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Local area No. 4 Slope, Huber, is pumping intermittently to surface to catch water before it goes to lower elevations.

Huber and Sugar Notch water would join at elevation + 190.0. Sugar Notch is pumping to surface at the shaft, with 2 pumps in tandem pumping up to the shaft level to keep water elevation below - 60.0. There is some seepage to the Truesdale pool, but slow. Men working just above - 60.0.

Truesdale pool is kept below elevation - 260.0 by pumping with 4 deepwell pumps at Askam shaft. This pumping is to protect Sugar Notch and Huber. Due to this pumping, men are able to work in the Truesdale area. Men at Truesdale are kept working above elevation 0.00. This pool is no danger to Sugar Notch, unless water builds up a head over Sugar water which is at a 200' higher elev.

20 Tunnel water has a restricted flow to Truesdale thru boreholes. It is possible that in a flash flood, water could rise faster in the 20 Tunnel area than in Truesdale and build up a head over Sugar Notch without detection. (raise 200' and then start to build a head). There are no measurements at 20 Tunnel which should be considered.

Loomis Colliery is supposed to be isolated, but is pumping with 3 4000 GPM pumps to prevent seepage or a breakthru to Truesdale via dams in 9 & 5 Tunnels at elev. - 320.0. No men are working underground at Loomis. Highest water elevation at Loomis has been + 67.0. When Loomis water gets to elev. 0.00, men at Truesdale must be kept above the elevation of Loomis water.

No. 7 Colliery, Susquehanna Coal Co., is filled to elev. + 513.0 and overflowing to the sands.

Alden Coal Co., Alden, Pa., is filled to elev. + 493.0 and assumed to be overflowing to Bliss (Truesdale Pool). Seems likely that if pumping were stopped at Truesdale, eventually Truesdale water would run to Alden and the pool would raise to + 513.0 529.0'. This would also flood Sugar Notch, Huber and all others above.

Glen Nan is operating and pumping. Located between No. 7 Colliery and Sterns Colliery, Susquehanna Coal Co., in Newport Twp., ie, also adjoins Wanamie Colliery Blue Coal Corp. Dams in barrier designed to overflow to surface at elev. + 640.0. Isolated from all other workings. Men working at elev. 0.00 and advancing toward lower elevations.

Sterns Colliery is filled and overflows to sands at + 529.0.

Wanamie 18 & 19 Blue Coal Corp., are operating and pumping. Men working at - 250.0 and advancing lower.

4000 GPM deepwell pumping to surface

18	9 slope Baltimore	"	"
	6 " Red Ash	"	"
19	7 Tunnel Ross	"	"
	3 Slope Red Ash	"	"
	26 Tunnel Hillman	"	"

Other pumping stations pumping up to these sumps.

Weak point in Alden to Wanamie barrier at + 345.0 which has Single place penetrated barrier pillar leaving 30-40' pillar. Place to the place where penetration of the barrier started and a dam was at the place.

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Glen Lyon Colliery is filled to overflow to sands at + 616.0 and + 627.0 Used for Glen Lyon breaker water by pumping. Blue Coal Corp. has recently installed State pumps to pump when water reaches + 610.0 to prevent water flowing to Wanamie over the top of the rock strata thru the sands: By agreement cannot pump water below elev. + 595.0. Pump for Glen Lyon Breaker on slope at end of concrete arch 250' down from outside at elev. + or - 620.0.

West end is filled to overflow and flows to Susquehanna River.

The Inman pool is isolated and at elevation + 276.7, but fluctuates with the South Wilkes-Barre pumping, located in Hanover Twp., Pa.

AR100005